

HONORING THE 112TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OXFORD HOTEL OF DENVER, CO

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 112th Anniversary of the Oxford Hotel in Denver, Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, 1891 was a tremendous year. Fueled by the Silver Rush, it was a time of great promise for the fledgling State of Colorado, and in September of that year, the Oxford Hotel opened its doors for the first time. With its beautiful artwork and antique furniture,

the Oxford offered its patrons class and luxury in the heart of the American Frontier. It provided its patrons with world-class dining facilities. The Oxford also was one of the first hotels in the West to have an elevator.

Located in the historic Lower Downtown district of Denver, the Oxford is only a walk away from the city's most cherished landmarks: The Denver Mint, the State Capital, Larimer Square, and the Denver Center for the Performing Arts, just to name a few. Its history and location helped build the Oxford's reputation as a cultural beacon in Colorado. This was reinforced in the 1960's and '70's when the hotel became renowned as a jazz center.

For years I have had the privilege of knowing the owners of the Oxford Hotel: Walter and Christie Isenberg and Dana Crawford. And I

must commend them for their fabulous preservation of the Oxford as a piece of Colorado history and for maintaining its reputation as one of the West's best hotels.

The Oxford has seen a city, a state, and indeed a whole region grow around it in its 112 years. Even though the country around the Oxford has changed dramatically, the hotel has not. This wonderful hotel remains a unique visiting experience for its patrons. It still provides world-class services to all who stay there. And it is, and shall be, one of Colorado's most cherished landmarks for as long as it stands.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me and show support for the Oxford Hotel and its 112 years of greatness.